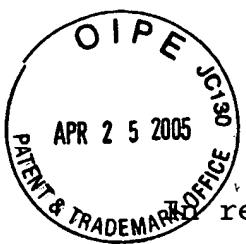


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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of

Klaus HAEGELE, Fritz WAZULA and Erwin WOGH

Application No.: 10/506,761 Confirmation No. 6672

Filed: February 10, 2005 Group Art Unit: 3747

For: VEHICLE WITH AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE AND AN AXLE CARRIER

Attorney Docket No.: 3926.103

Customer Number: 000041288

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of the documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, copy of an International Search Report and copy of a German Office Action are provided herewith.

1. European Patent Application No. 0 684 159 A
2. World Patent Application No. 02 02318 A
3. European Patent Application No. 1 108 618 A
4. German Patent Application No. 697 04 697 T2
5. German Patent Application No. 44 23 479 A1
6. U.S. Patent No. 6,468,594 B1

**Document 1**

Document 1 is in the English language.

In the International Search Report column 2, line 37 - column 3, line 27 were cited as "A" category relevancy to claims 1, 3-5.

**Document 2**

Document 2 is in the English language.

In the International Search Report column 5, line 8 - column 6, line 13 and fig. 1 were cited as "A" category relevancy to claims 2, 3, 5, 6.

**Documents 3**

Applicants are not aware of any English language document equivalent to Document 3, other than an English language abstract:

This noise reducing cover consists of a base cover plate (3) which is fitted below the engine mount (10) and between both wheel-arches (1,2). The wheel arches (1,2) are provided with covers (4,5). The front end module (6) consists of an upper strap (7) arranged at each side to fit the headlamps, and a plastic mount (8) which locates below the vehicle radiator (9). The cover is fixed only to parts of the vehicle which do not determine the shape of the vehicle, such as the front end of the base cover plate (3) is fixed to the plastic mount (8) of the front end module (6) while the rear end is fixed to the engine mount (10).

As these points (8, 10) are only individual to the vehicle's platform, the cover can be used for any number of models based on that platform.

In the International Search Report column 2, paragraph 12-column 3, paragraph 13 and fig. 1 were cited as "A" category relevancy to claim 1.

#### **Documents 4**

Document 6 is an English language document in the patent family of Document 4.

#### **Documents 5**

In an Office Action in the corresponding German application, Document 5 was cited for teaching at page 3, lines 15-21 the characteristics of claim 6.

Applicants are not aware of any English language document equivalent to Document 5, other than an English language abstract:

A heat and noise reducing coating for metal plate comprises a layer based on a solvent-free cpd. of bitumen, polymers and/or wax and fillers with particle size NOTGREATER 200 mu m. Typical fillers are aluminium and/or zinc powder, graphite or mica powder or graphite and mica powder with other fillers. A metal foil covers the exposed face of the coating. In a coating process (i) the solvent-free cpd. is applied hot to the metal plate and the metal foil applied while the cpd. is still hot or (ii) the hot

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION  
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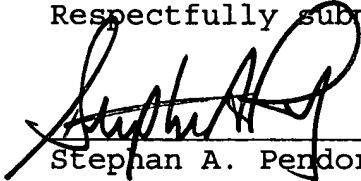
cpd. is cooled after application and the metal foil bonded with an adhesive.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months from the application's filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedated or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

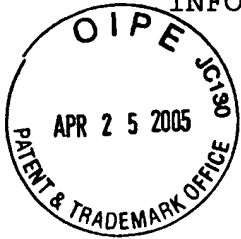
Respectfully submitted,

  
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Reg. No. 32, 665

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Dated: **April 21, 2005**

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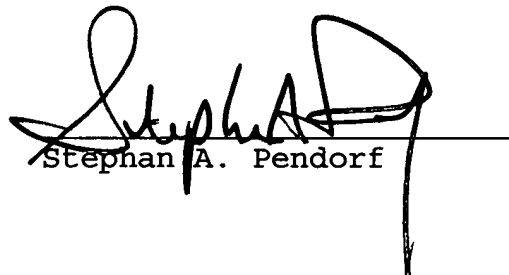
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Form PTO/SB/08A, including six (6) documents, for U.S. Application No. 10/506,761 filed February 10, 2005, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 21, 2005.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.

  
Stephan A. Pendorf

